

has also been decorated with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, and Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with four oak leaf clusters. These honors truly illustrate the deep commitment and incredible service that mark Lieutenant General Thompson's career in the Air Force.

I would like to commend Lieutenant General Thompson for his dedicated service to the United States Air Force and our nation and I wish him all the best in his new life in retirement with his lovely wife, Mrs. Ruth Ann Thompson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be in D.C. due to a pressing family obligation. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 219, YEA on Roll Call No. 220, and YEA on Roll Call No. 221.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, I missed a vote on Monday, July 26, due to circumstances outside of my control. I would have voted Aye on the Motion to Table the Republican Privileged Resolution, which was considered on the House floor that day.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HONORARY FIREFIGHTER PENELOPE SALTRAY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss Penelope 'Penny' Saltray as she is named an Honorary Firefighter for the Hanford and Kings County Fire Departments.

Penny Saltray, a seven-year-old citizen of the City of Hanford, California, dreams of one day becoming a firefighter. She currently battles the life-altering symptoms of a diagnosis no other person in the world shares. Despite her conditions and the daily obstacles she must overcome, Miss Saltray maintains remarkable desire, excitement, and curiosity about a career as a firefighter.

Firefighters put their lives in danger to help others. They exhibit incredible courage, drive, and character while serving their community. Much like a firefighter, Miss Saltray battles dangerous threats every day with inspiring strength and determination. She truly has the heart of a firefighter.

Miss Saltray's resilience, passion, and positive attitude perfectly represents the spirit of Hanford and what it means to be a firefighter. By being sworn in as an honorary firefighter for the Hanford and Kings County Fire Department, Miss Penny Saltray has rightly achieved her dream.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Honorary Firefighter Miss Penny Saltray for her strength and ambition to serve.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT J.G.
HOWARD T. OEDEL

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th birthday of Lieutenant J.G. Howard T. Oedel. It is with great pride that I join others in honoring Howard's patriotism, dedication, and sacrifice.

Howard's life has been filled with many milestones and achievements, from serving as a crew member of the USS *Massachusetts* in World War II to being a Harvard graduate and Ph.D. scholar. He is a pillar of the Hebron community and we are so thankful to have him.

As the daughter and daughter-in-law of World War II veterans, recognizing the service of our veterans is deeply personal to me. It is my great honor to serve those who have served us.

I wish Howard the happiest of birthdays. Congratulations.

HONORING SUSAN SUNG HEE LEE AS A 28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Susan Sung Hee Lee of La Crescenta, California.

A native Angeleno, Susan has lived in La Crescenta for most of her life, and attended Monte Vista Elementary School, Rosemont Middle School, and Crescenta Valley High School. She served in her church for many years, teaching Bible study to youth, and went on several mission trips to serve in rural cities in Mexico and northern Thailand. After graduating from high school, Susan pursued higher education receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Humanities with an Asian American Studies major from the University of California, Irvine, an Associate's Degree in Nursing from Glendale Community College, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Azusa Pacific University.

Susan's mother, who has been a nurse for more than four decades, inspired, supported,

and encouraged Susan's pursuit in becoming a nurse. Currently, Ms. Lee is a registered nurse at USC Verdugo Hills Hospital in the intensive care unit, where she has been a Relief Charge Nurse for nearly eleven years. She highly values her work as a nurse and strives to care for every patient as if they were a member of her family. As a La Crescenta resident for many years, Susan feels fortunate to be taking care of members of her community and serving in the area where she grew up.

Susan's dedication and passion for her job became even more evident during the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic. With the wholehearted support of her family, Ms. Lee worked at least one overtime shift every week and would stay past her 12-hour shifts when there was a shortage of nurses. Further, she volunteered to come to work before the start of her shifts so there would not be a gap in the care the patients were receiving. Susan also credits her work colleagues, who she sees as a second family, for persevering during the pandemic.

During the pandemic, Susan used her sewing machine to sew her own scrub caps and provided scrub caps to each of her colleagues, as well as putting her years of haircutting experience from her mission trips to use by giving haircuts to her colleagues when the hair salons and barber shops were closed. In addition, she brought homemade baked goods to share with her colleagues and continues to do so until today. While Susan sees these as simple gestures, she takes pride in knowing that she can provide comfort in the trying times of the pandemic and hopes to be able to contribute in this way throughout her career and personal life.

Susan is a loving wife and mother of two young children. She thrives in the outdoors and enjoys camping, hiking, scuba diving and bike riding.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Susan Sung Hee Lee.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE PRATT HOWARD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the Members of the House to join me in mourning the passing of one of our Nation's foremost experts on aviation safety and infrastructure, George "Pratt" Howard of Deep River, Connecticut. Known as Peter to family and friends—he passed away at his home in Deep River on January 30, 2021. Peter has moved on from this world but his spirit of love for his neighbors and community will never dissipate, and will continue to inspire us to put the public good above personal ambition or gain, and always treat one another with compassion and care.

Born in New York City's Greenwich Village—Peter spent most of his childhood in the city and absorbed the cultural and community diversity in the big apple that would positively influence his creative and artistic mind later in life. An avid student and passionate learner—Peter left the city after high school to earn a